

THE ROYAL COLLEGE  
OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON  
TERCENTENARY CELEBRATION OF  
THE PUBLICATION OF THE  
DE MOTU CORDIS  
BY  
WILLIAM HARVEY  
1628

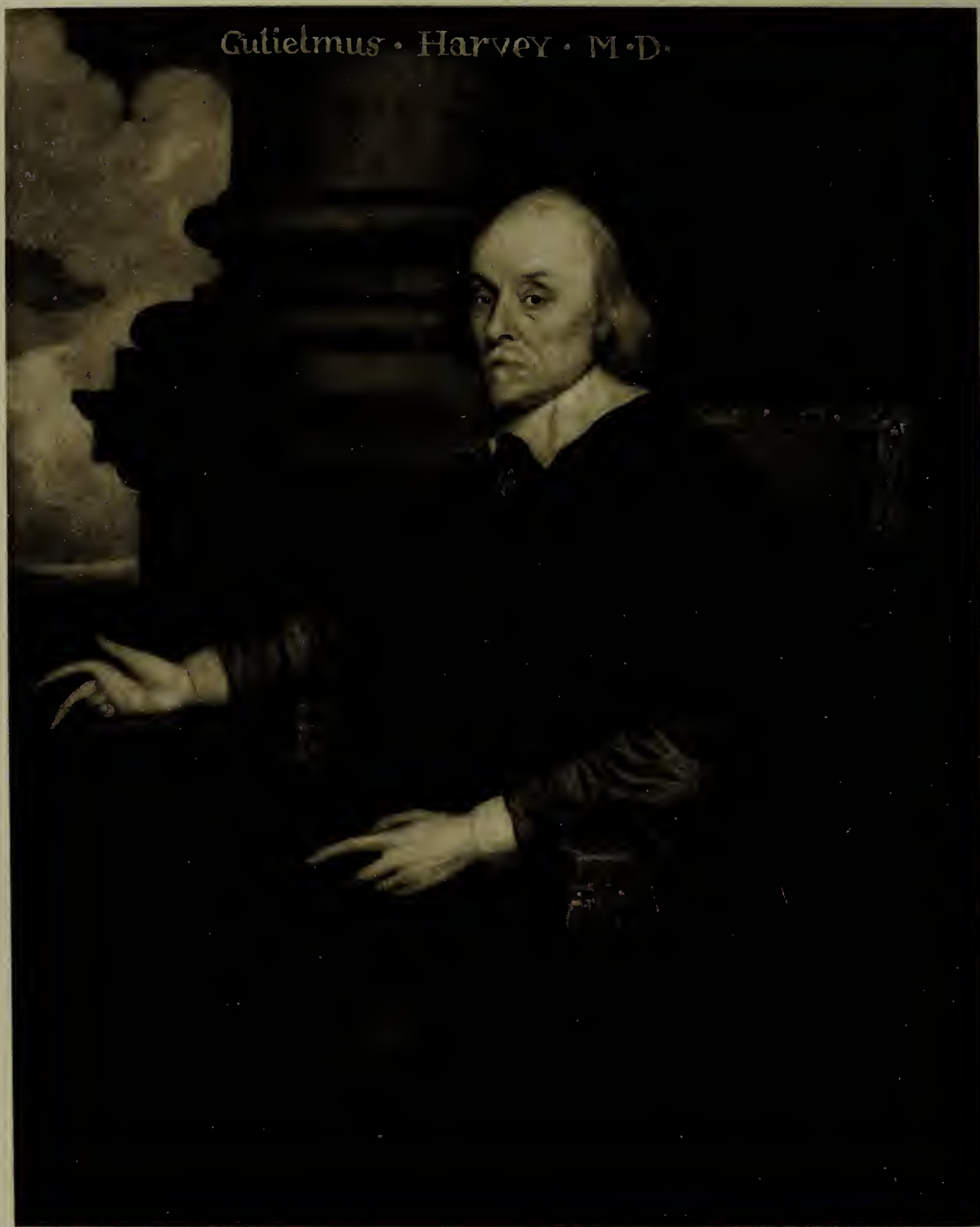
Programme of Arrangements

May 14th-18th 1928









*Cornelius Jansen pinxit*

*Emery Walker ph. sc.*

*William Harvey*

*1578-1657*

*from the portrait belonging to the Royal College of Physicians*

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## WILLIAM HARVEY

William Harvey was born at Folkestone in 1578 and educated at the King's school of Canterbury and afterwards at Caius College, Cambridge. After graduating in Arts at Cambridge in 1597 he set out for Padua, where he studied medicine for four years under Fabricius, Minadous, and Casserius, and in 1602 received from that University the diploma of Doctor of Medicine, which is now in the possession of this College. On his return from Padua Cambridge admitted him to her doctorate, and in 1607 he became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, and in 1615 its Lumleian Lecturer. Meantime, in 1608, he had received a reversionary appointment as Physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, which became absolute in 1609. As Lumleian Lecturer Harvey expounded year after year within the College his doctrine of the circular movement of the blood, before he gave it in its completed form to the world at large, in 1628, by the publication at Frankfort of his "*Exercitatio Anatomica de Motu Cordis et Sanguinis*", dedicated to King Charles the First, a copy of the first edition of which may be seen in the Library of the College.

In this volume, addressing the President of the Royal College of Physicians and his other fellow Physicians, he says "I have already and repeatedly presented you, my learned friends, with my views of the motion and function of the heart, in my anatomical lectures: but having now for nine years and more confirmed these views by multiplied demonstrations in your presence, illustrated them by arguments, and freed them from the objections of the most learned and skilful anatomists, I at length yield to the requests, I may say entreaties, of many, and here present them for general consideration in this treatise".



The manuscript notes of the course given in 1616 may be seen in the British Museum, or in excellent facsimile reproduction in a volume prepared under the supervision of a Committee of the Royal College of Physicians.

During the Civil War Harvey was often in close attendance as physician on King Charles the First, both on the field of battle and at the Royal Headquarters at Oxford, where he became Doctor of Medicine in 1642, and Warden of Merton College in 1645 for a single year. In 1648 he retired from active practice, and spent the evening of his days at the house of one or other of his merchant brothers, more particularly at the Roehampton house of Eliab, who was a member of the Grocers' Company. Here he resumed his former work on the Generation of Animals, which was published in 1651 through the instrumentality of Sir George Ent. In this same year Harvey offered to build a Museum for the College, which was to be at once a library and a repository for simples and rarities. In 1654 the completed building was handed over, together with the title-deeds, to the College. In the same year the Fellows elected Harvey, who had already been Censor in 1613, 1625, and 1629, and Treasurer in 1628 and 1629, their President, but age and failing health constrained him to decline the office. Nevertheless he continued to discharge his duties as Lumleian Lecturer until 1656, when on laying down this post he crowned his unceasing generosity to the College with the gift of his patrimonial estate at Burmarsh, in Kent. In his Deed of Gift he provided money for the stipend of the Librarian and the upkeep of the Library, and for an annual Banquet and Oration. He enjoined the chosen Orator to commemorate the benefactors



of the College, stating what they have done for the College, and calling on others to follow their example, and to exhort the Fellows and Members of the College to search and study out the secrets of nature by way of experiment, and to continue in mutual love and affection among themselves for the preservation of the dignity of the College. The Banquet and the Oration are held in the College annually on St. Luke's Day, October the 18th.

In 1657 this passionate searcher after truth, this generous, unworldly, religious man died, where he had chosen to live, in the house of one of his beloved brothers, that of Eliab, at Roehampton.

The prompt and universal acceptance of Harvey's discovery as an indisputable anatomical fact was hindered by the circumstance that he left one detail in the circular movement of the blood for future demonstration, namely, the precise mode of transference of the blood from arteries to veins. Malpighi made this known to the world in 1661, having seen by the aid of the microscope the passage of the blood through the capillaries of a frog's lung. He even caught a glimpse of the blood corpuscles in actual transit, but it remained for Kircher, Swammerdam and Leeuwenhoeck to give them bodily form. As Malpighi was born in 1628, a tithe of homage in this Tercentenary Celebration may well be bestowed on him.

Surprise is sometimes expressed that the physiological harvest of Harvey's discovery was delayed so long in its ingathering. Harvey was well aware that this discovery touched only the fringe of the much wider problem of the purpose of the circulation. For this reason he styled his "*De Motu Cordis*" an Anatomical Exercise, and promised further treatises on Nutrition and Respiration,

neither of which was destined to be born of his hand.

Before Harvey, the prevalent belief had been that the food became converted in the intestines into chyme, which was carried by the portal vein to the liver, and there converted into blood and endowed with "Natural Spirit", or the property of growth. Part of this low-grade blood was carried from the liver by the hepatic veins and the inferior vena cava to the right ventricle, where it gave off impurities by way of the pulmonary artery and the lungs, and after this purification ebbed to and fro for purposes of ordinary nutrition. A very small part of this venous blood did, however, pass through invisible pores in the muscular septum to the left ventricle, where it was mixed with air drawn in from the lung by way of the pulmonary vein, by the agency of active traction of ventricular diastole. Thus was produced a high-grade arterial blood, instinct with the principle of life, the "Vital Spirit", which ebbing to and fro in the arteries endowed the various organs with function. From such as reached the brain was distilled the noblest essence of all, the "Animal Spirit" or breath of the soul, which when carried out from the brain by the nerves initiated motion and sensation and the highest functions of the organism.

Harvey's demonstration that the same blood flowed perpetually in two interlacing circuits, from right to left and from left of the heart, visiting in its course the remotest portions of the body, swept away at one stroke the very foundations of all this fantastic speculation, and paved the way for a scientific explanation of the purpose of the circulation. So it is that the publication of the "De Motu Cordis" has been rightly acclaimed as

## THE BIRTHDAY OF PHYSIOLOGY









*"The Arms of the College  
from "London's Armory" by Richard Wallis 1677*



# THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON

## HISTORICAL NOTES

The Royal College of Physicians was founded by Thomas Linacre who, with the assistance of Cardinal Wolsey, obtained from King Henry the Eighth a Royal Charter, dated September 23rd, 1518, which granted the power to form a College for the purpose of controlling and protecting all those who were engaged in the practice of medicine in the City of London and for seven miles around. By a subsequent Statute, 14 Henry VIII, the powers of the College were extended so that authority was exercised over all who practised medicine throughout England, with the exception of those who were doctors of medicine of Oxford and Cambridge. Six Physicians, viz. John Chambre, Thomas Linacre, Ferdinand de Victoria, John Francis, Nicholas Halsewell, and Robert Yaxley were named in the Royal Charter as the first Fellows of the College, and power was granted to them to elect a President, to add to their number, to make by-laws and regulations, and to license all those who wished to practise medicine in the City of London and seven miles around.

Thomas Linacre, the founder, was chosen the first President of the College which owed its inception almost entirely to his forethought and energy. Linacre had travelled in Italy, and had studied at several Universities in that country, especially at Padua. While in Italy he had been impressed with the care and attention bestowed upon the study of medicine, and he, no doubt, compared this activity with the lack of enthusiasm in England. As a result of these impressions he decided to found in England a College designed to control, foster, and promote the study of medicine. When he founded the College, Linacre had in mind as a model the medical schools in Italy, and so it comes about

that the constitution and composition of the College show some resemblance to those of the Italian Universities of Linacre's day. The College was founded by Linacre, but its struggles for existence might have ended in failure but for the devotion and energy of Dr. John Caius who was President for ten years during the years 1555-1572. Under his firm and sagacious rule the College grew and became firmly established. The debt it owes to Caius can hardly be measured.

**THE COLLEGE HOUSES.** The first meetings of the College, for the transaction of business, were held in Linacre's house in Knightrider Street, in the City, and here it remained until 1614, when a new house was erected at Amen Corner, with a garden, on the site of the present house of the Canons Residentiary of St. Paul's. This College House, which was in occupation in Harvey's time, was burned down in the Great Fire in 1666, and in 1674 the College removed to a new building in Warwick Lane in the City, which had been built from the designs of Sir Christopher Wren. Here it remained until 1825, when it removed to the present building which was designed by Sir Robert Smirke, and erected on a site belonging to the Crown, but leased to the College for 999 years.

**THE LIBRARY.** The medical books of Linacre, bequeathed by him to the College, formed the nucleus of the Library, and by gifts and bequests it increased until in 1660, the date of the first Catalogue, it numbered some 1300 volumes. In 1666 the Library was destroyed in the Great Fire, and only 140 volumes were saved. After this disaster the Marquess of Dorchester, a Fellow of the College, and possessed of one of the finest private Libraries in England at that time, bequeathed the whole of his books, amounting to some 4,000 volumes, to the College. To



this bequest the great value of the Library is largely due. Other valuable bequests were made from time to time, and in 1921 the late Dr. Lloyd Roberts bequeathed the whole of his Library of early-printed medical books to the College, a bequest second only to that of the Marquess of Dorchester. The Library now contains about 50,000 volumes, of which more than 100 were printed before the year 1500, and over 4,000 before the year 1600. The Library is not confined to medical books alone, for it contains sections comprising early editions of the Classics, Theology, Civil and Canon Law, Mathematics, and the Natural Sciences. It also contains about 350 Manuscripts, some of them of great interest, a fine collection of some 5,000 engraved portraits of medical and scientific men, and a large series of Charters and other legal documents relating to the history of the College.

**PORTRAITS.** The College possesses 130 Portraits in oil of distinguished Fellows of the College, and the collection is representative of many of the portrait painters in England during the last three centuries. Besides these the College contains many busts and some miniatures and medallions.

**SILVER.** The College collection of Silver Plate, with a few notable exceptions, dates from the beginning of the eighteenth century, and has been formed by gifts from the Fellows from time to time.

**THE INSIGNIA.** The Insignia of the College, which are reproduced in this Programme, consist of the Mace in silver-gilt, presented in 1683 by Dr. John Lawson, a former President of the College, the Caduceus, a silver wand carried by the President on official occasions, and made for Dr. Caius in 1556, the Book of the Statutes, and the velvet Cushion on which the Book rests.





*The Insignia of the College*

*Emery (Walker) photo.*





# LIST OF DELEGATES

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARGENTINE

University of Buenos Ayres. His Excellency Dr. José Evaristo Uriburu,  
Ambassador, Argentine Republic.

### AUSTRIA

Academy of Sciences, Vienna. Professor Dr. K. F. Wenckebach.

### BELGIUM

Royal Academy of Medicine, Brussels. Professor Dr. P. Nolf.  
University of Louvain. Professor Dr. Bouckaert.

### CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

University of Prague. Professor Dr. František Mareš  
and Dr. Syllaba.

### DENMARK

University of Copenhagen. Professor Dr. Oluf Thomsen.

### EGYPT

University of Egypt, Cairo. Dr. A. A. Ismail.

### FINLAND

University of Helsingfors. His Excellency M. A. H. Saastamoinen,  
Minister Plenipotentiary.

### FRANCE

University of Paris. Professor Pierre Teissier.  
Academy of Medicine, Paris. Professor A. Chauffard.  
Pasteur Institute, Paris. Professor Delezenne.

## GERMANY

University of Berlin.	Professor Dr. Keibel.
University of Frankfort.	Professor Dr. A. Bethe.
University of Leipzig.	Professor Dr. M. Gildemeister.
Prussian Academy of Sciences, Berlin.	Professor Dr. Max Rubner.

## GREECE

University of Athens. His Excellency Demetrios Cacclamanos,  
Minister Plenipotentiary.

## HOLLAND

University of Leyden.	Professor Dr. J. A. J. Barge.
Royal Academy of Sciences, Amsterdam.	Prof. Dr. J. van der Hoeve.

## HUNGARY

University of Buda Pesth.	Professor Dr. Lajos Nékám.
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## ITALY

University of Bologna.	Professor Dr. M. L. Patrizi.
University of Padua.	Professor Dr. A. Castiglioni.
Royal Academy of Medicine of Rome.	Dr. Aldo Castellani, K.C.M.G.

## JAPAN

Universities of Japan.	Mr. W. Moriya, Secretary to the Japanese Embassy.
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## NORWAY

University of Oslo.	Professor Dr. G. H. Monrad-Krohn.
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## POLAND

University of Warsaw.	Professor Dr. G. Modrakowski.
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## ROUMANIA

University of Bucharest. Professor D. Ionescu and Dr. S. Lalu.



## RUSSIA

University of Kazan. Professor Dr. A. Samoylov.  
Academy of Sciences, Leningrad. Professor I. P. Pavlov.

## SWEDEN

University of Upsala. Professor Gustav Göthlin.  
Royal Swedish Academy  
of Sciences, Stockholm. Professor J. E. Johansson.

## SWITZERLAND

University of Berne. Professor Dr. Leon Asher.  
University of Geneva. Professor Dr. Maurice Roch.

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Harvard University. Professor Stanley Cobb.  
Johns Hopkins University. Professor F. J. Goodnow.  
Professor W. H. Welch.  
University of Pennsylvania,  
Philadelphia. Professor W. H. F. Addison.  
College of Physicians,  
Philadelphia. Dr. F. R. Packard.  
Rockefeller Institute  
for Medical Research, N. Y. Dr. Rufus Cole.

## BRITISH DOMINIONS BEYOND THE SEAS

### AUSTRALIA

University of Sydney. Dr. C. B. Blackburn.

## SCOTLAND

University of St. Andrews.	Dr. Adam Patrick.
University of Aberdeen.	Prof. J. A. MacWilliam, M.D., F.R.S.
University of Glasgow.	Professor T. K. Monro, M.D.
University of Edinburgh.	Prof. Sir E. Sharpey-Schafer, F.R.S.
Royal Society of Edinburgh.	Mr. A. Logan Turner, F.R.C.S., LL.D.
Royal College of Physicians.	Dr. Robert A. Fleming, President.
Royal College of Surgeons.	Mr. Alexander Miles, F.R.C.S., LL.D., President.
Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow.	Dr. G. H. Edington, President.

## IRELAND

University of Dublin. (Trinity College)	Professor A. F. Dixon.
University of Belfast.	Dr. J. A. Lindsay.
Royal College of Physicians.	Dr. W. A. Winter, President.
Royal College of Surgeons.	Mr. A. Fullerton, C.B., C.M.G., President.
Corporation of Folkestone. (Harvey's Birth-place)	Mr. Reginald Gilbert Wood, the Mayor.
King's School, Canterbury. (Harvey's School)	Mr. Algernon Latter, late Headmaster.
St. Bartholomew's Hospital. (Harvey's Hospital)	The Rt. Hon. Lord Stanmore, C.V.O. Treasurer.
Caius College, Cambridge. (Harvey's College)	Sir Hugh Anderson, M.D., F.R.S., Master.
Merton College, Oxford. (Where Harvey was Warden)	Mr. T. Bowman, Warden.
Representative of the Harvey Family.	The Rev. Rossendale Lloyd.



# DIARY

MONDAY, 14th May 1928

- MORNING 11 a.m. Reception of Delegates by his Majesty the King at Buckingham Palace.  
Morning Dress with black coat
- AFTERNOON 3 p.m. Reception of Delegates & Distinguished Guests by the President of the Royal College of Physicians at the College.  
Academic Robe  
Presentation of Addresses by Delegates.  
Admission of Honorary Fellows.  
Eulogy of Harvey by Sir Charles Sherrington, Professor Chauffard and Professor Dr. Keibel.
- EVENING 6.30 p.m. for 7 p.m. Dinner to Delegates and Guests given by the Worshipful Company of Grocers at Grocers' Hall, Prince's Street, E.C.  
Evening Dress with Orders and Decorations
- 9 p.m. \* Lady Bradford 'At Home' at 8 Manchester Square, W.1.

TUESDAY, 15th May

- MORNING 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Demonstrations arranged by the Royal College of Physicians in the Physiological Department of University College.  
A Reproduction of Harvey's original experiments displayed by Kinematograph.  
Demonstrations illustrating some recent additions to our knowledge of the circulation.



(TUESDAY, 15th May (continued))

AFTERNOON 1.15 p.m. Luncheon to Delegates and Guests at St. Bartholomew's Hospital (Harvey's Hospital), given by the Governors of the Hospital.

4 p.m. \* Tea to Delegates, Guests and their Ladies at the College, with Exhibition of Books, Manuscripts, Pictures, Silver and other Objects of Interest.

EVENING 9 p.m. \* Conversazione of Delegates, Guests, Fellows and their Ladies at the Hall of the Worshipful Company of Merchant Taylors, 30 Threadneedle Street, E.C., by permission of the Court of the Company.

H. R. H. the Prince of Wales has consented to be present.

WEDNESDAY, 16th May

MORNING 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Demonstrations arranged by the Royal College of Physicians in the Physiological Department of University College.

A Reproduction of Harvey's original experiments displayed by Kinematograph. Demonstrations illustrating some recent additions to our knowledge of the circulation.

## WEDNESDAY, 16th May (continued)

### EVENING

6.30 p.m. for 7 p.m.  
Evening Dress with  
Orders and Decorations

Dinner to Delegates and Guests given by the President and Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians in the Guildhall of the City of London.

## THURSDAY, 17th May

### MORNING & AFTERNOON

\* Visit of Delegates, Guests and their Ladies to Oxford by invitation of the Warden and Fellows of Merton College, of which Harvey was Warden.

### EVENING

8.30 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Reception of Delegates and invited Guests at the Rooms of the Royal Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, by the President of the Royal Society.

## FRIDAY, 18th May

### MORNING & AFTERNOON

\* Visit of Delegates, Guests and their Ladies to Cambridge by invitation of the Master and Fellows of Caius College, whence Harvey graduated.

\* Ladies are invited to those functions marked with an asterisk. Additional arrangements have been made for the entertainment of ladies, and a separate list of these may be obtained on application at the College.







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EMERY WALKER LIMITED  
AT HAMMERSMITH  
LONDON  
W.



*Royal College of Physicians,  
Pall Mall East,  
London, S.W.1.*

1st June, 1928.

Dear Sir,

I beg to send a copy of the Programme  
of the Harvey Tercentenary Celebration at which  
your Society was represented by a distinguished  
Delegate, for the use of your Library.

Yours truly,

RAYMOND CRAWFORD,

Registrar.

*The Librarian,*

*The Medical Society*

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Library of the  
The University of  
Chicago  
1912-1913

Dear Sir,

I beg to send a copy of the program  
of the Library Administration as well as  
your booklet on the subject of a  
reference, for the use of your library.

Yours truly,  
RAYMOND WATSON,  
Director.

The Librarian  
The University of Chicago  

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